water manufacturers of the country urging that they be exempted from the purview of Notification No. 223/87-CE dated 22-9-1987 withdrawing the benefit of duty exemption scheme to small scale manufacturers of specified goods, and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto and action being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The representation has been considered but it has not been found possible to agree to the request contained therein.

Rajghat Inter-state Project

2496 SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI.
SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the tatal cost of Rajghat inter-State Project and how much cost the Madhya Pradesh Government has to bear on this project;

(b) by when the Rajghat Project is likely to be completed and what are the bottlenecks for its completion as per schedule programme;

(c) what is the area to be benefited by this project in Madhya Pradesh and whether the canal system is being constructed with such a time schedule that Madhya Pradesh will start using its share of water as per schedule; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons for non-completion of canals in Madhya Pradesh and what steps are being taken to remove this bottleneck?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) The approved cost of inter-State Rajghat Dam is about Rs. 123 crores. This is targetted for completion by March, 1992. The Madhya Pradesh Government has to bear 50 per cent of the cost.

(c) and (d) An area of over 1 1 lakh hectares will progressively get irrigation benefit subject to the availability of resources in the next Plan.

Child Labour

2497. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of children, who deserve to be in schools, are employed all over the country in jobs which only adults can handle; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to curb the meance of child labour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA). (a) It It is true that there are a large number of child workers in the country engaged in various occupations.

(b) To tackle the problem of child labour Government have enacted the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 which prohibits the employment of children below 14 years in certain specified occupations and processes and seeks to regulate the working conditions of children in employments in which children are not prohibited from working. The Government has also formulated a National Policy on Child Labour which inter-alia provides for effective implementation of the legal provisions relating to child labour; focussing of general welfare and development programmes for the benefit of child labour and their families, and the taking up of projects in ten areas of concentration of child labour to provide welfare inputs like education, health care, skill development etc. to the working children.

Import of pistols for Para-military and Police Forces

2498. SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pistols for the use of para-military and police forecs

were imported during the years 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86; and

(b) if so, the names of the manufacturers, the country of origin and the unit price at which these pistols were imported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) *Year*	*Manufacturers*	*Country of origin*	*Unit price (FOB)*
1983-84	M/s. Fabrique Nationale S.A. Division	Belgium	$ 351.
1984-85	(i) Do.	Do.	Do.
	(ii) M/s. Sturm Ruger	USA	$ 165 56 (revolver)
1985-86	M/s. Fabrique Nationale S.A. Division	Belgium	$ 351.

Upper Kolab Irrigation Project in Orissa

2499. SHRI GANESHWAR KUSUM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for the delay in the completion of Upper Kolab Irrigation Project in Orissa; and

(b) by when this project is expected to be completed and the irrigation potential of this Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) Due to constraint of resources, the project is targetted for completion in the Eighth Plan to irrigate an area of about 94,000 hectare annually.

Water availability in the country

2500. SHRI D B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Secretaries of irrigation and groundwater departments from all the States have recently reviewed the water availability situation in the country;

(b) if so, the outcome of the review;

(c) whether any strategy has been evolved for the rabi season in view of the drought situation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (d) Secretaries of Irrigation and Ground Water Departments of drought-affected States met recently to review the actions taken by the State Governments on management of water resources in the context of current year's drought. It was noted that the States had drawn up plans for water budgeting, giving top priority to drinking water requirements followed by irrigation uses with due importance for raising fodder crops. Efforts have been stepped up for exploiting ground water The position of storage reservoirs was reported to have improved after August, 1987 and most of the States have plans to sustain Rabi irrigation at almost 1986 level by judicious management of available water.

News-item captioned 'Life is cheap in Taran Taran'

2501. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Life is cheap in Taran Taran' which appeared in the Hindustan Times of the 23rd September 1987;